

# MIAMI BEACH

## **NEIGHBORHOOD/COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING**

ADDENDUM MATERIAL

COMMISSION CHAMBER, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR, CITY HALL

March 20, 2015 at 2:00pm

Neighborhood/Community Affairs Committee

Commissioner Edward L. Tobin, Chairperson

Commissioner Micky Steinberg, Vice-Chairperson

Commissioner Michael Grieco, Member

Commissioner Deede Weithorn, Alternate

### **ADDENDUM MATERIAL ITEM #1**

#### **DISCUSSION ON THE BLUEWAYS MASTER PLAN**

*Commission Item R7J, March 11, 2015*

*(Requested by Parks and Recreation)*

John Rebar, Parks and Recreation Director



# MIAMI BEACH

City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, Florida 33139, [www.miamibeachfl.gov](http://www.miamibeachfl.gov)

## COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the Neighborhood and Community Affairs Committee

FROM: Jimmy L. Morales, City Manager

DATE: March 20, 2015

SUBJECT: **Discussion on the Blueways Master Plan**

At the March 11, 2015 City Commission Meeting a discussion on the Blueways Master Plan was referred to the Neighborhood and Community Affairs Committee by Commissioner Malakoff. A copy of the full plan is available online at <http://miamibeachfl.gov/parksandrecreation/> by clicking the link at the bottom right of the screen "In Your Neighborhood – Blueways Master Plan – Final" or at <http://web.miamibeachfl.gov/WorkArea/DownloadAsset.aspx?id=81903>

### **BACKGROUND**

Blueways are a system of canals, rivers, waterways and lakes connected with a similar environmental theme. They connect people to the water at convenient locations allowing for aquatic recreational opportunities and transportation by water within a community. With a grant in the amount of \$40,000 from the Florida Inland Navigation District, and matching general fund dollars, the City contracted with EDSA, a landscape architectural firm, to conduct a study and develop a Blueways Master Plan. The objective was to create a five-year planning document to be used to increase the interaction of residents and tourists with the waterways in and around the City of Miami Beach. This master plan document would serve as a living document and would be revisited and built upon as needed. The goals were as follows:

- Create a sustainable and thriving environment;
- Revitalize waterfront public spaces;
- Connect people from land to water;
- Increase interaction with the water; and
- Encourage healthy lifestyles

A kick-off meeting was held on April 17, 2014 with staff and the consultant, followed by two public input workshops which were held on June 3, 2014 and August 5, 2014. Residents and business owners were encouraged to attend the meetings to share their ideas, desires, and needs related to the City's waterways. During the workshops key issues and opportunities were discussed. Attendees offered suggestions, posed what challenges they saw and what desires they had related to connectivity with the waterways.

The most resonated suggestions and concepts were as follows:

- Access to the water/accessibility
- Inclusion of the entire community in accessing the water
- Wildlife - Natural habitats to be increased
- Positive environmental impacts to be considered
- Launch points needed

This valuable feedback was compiled by the consultant and used to shape the final product.

Through the use of the proposed master plan document, the City has a guide of identified opportunities to revitalize existing waterfront public spaces and create interactive experiences along the water. This document also emphasizes the need to expand pedestrian connectivity throughout, allowing everyone to travel from the land to water. This will allow both residents and visitors to take advantage of the water, a surrounding amenity, and will lead to healthier lifestyles throughout. The proposed plan reflects the combined efforts of the design consultant, City staff and public stakeholders, creating a foundation which will serve as a guide moving forward.

The plans suggested improvements start by addressing underutilized spaces and suggesting “low-hanging fruit” and less expensive renovations such as landscape and site furnishings that address the appearance and usefulness of the City’s open spaces. These include installation of bike racks and trash/recycling receptacles. Additionally, the master plan suggests enhancements for each identified location throughout the City while standardizing designs within comparable locations to help reduce costs by not needing multiple designs. Some of these recommendations include kayak launches, boat docking facilities, mangrove habitats, living shorelines, improved maintenance efforts and pedestrian and bicycle networks.

## **CONCLUSION**

The overall objective of the plan is to use the natural resources within the City in order to connect people to the water at convenient locations, allowing for the enhancement of aquatic recreational and water-based transportation opportunities within our community, as well as providing additional opportunities for economic development. The proposed master plan provides recommendations to be refined later into detailed site specific design documents.

  
JLM/JMT/JR/PRK

Attachment



An aerial photograph of Miami, Florida, showing the city skyline, the Biscayne Bay, and the surrounding water. The image is used as a background for the presentation slide.

EDSA

# City of Miami Beach **Blueways Master Plan** Presentation

March 11, 2015



## **BLUEWAYS:**

A SYSTEM OF CANALS, RIVERS, WATERWAYS AND LAKES CONNECTED WITH A SIMILAR ENVIRONMENTAL THEME. CONNECTING PEOPLE TO THE WATER AT CONVENIENT LOCATIONS ALLOWING AQUATIC RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY AND TRANSPORTATION BY WATER WITHIN A COMMUNITY.

## **STUDY PURPOSE:**

TO CREATE A FIVE-YEAR PLANNING DOCUMENT TO BE USED TO INCREASE THE PARTICIPATION OF RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS IN THE ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY.



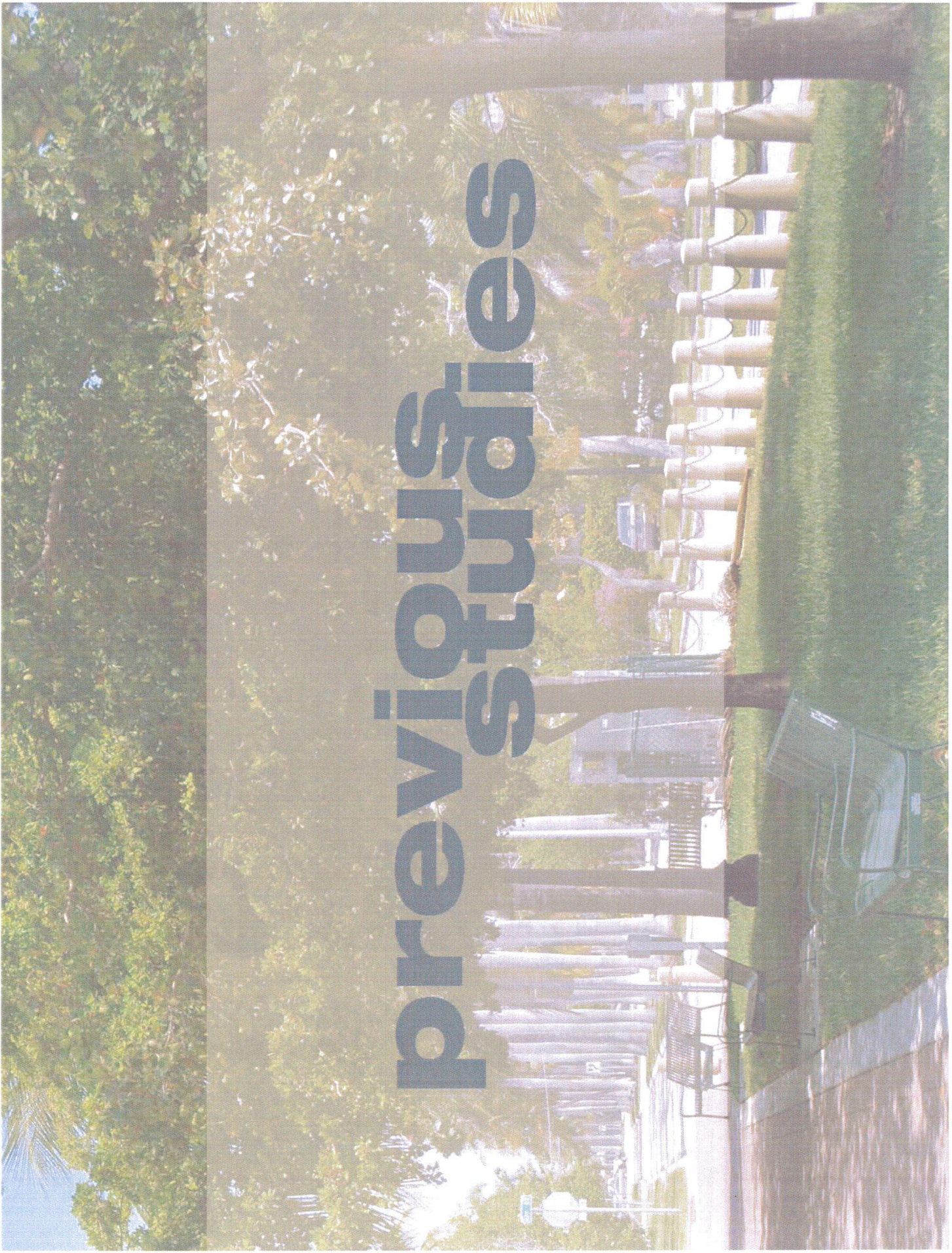


# community outreach



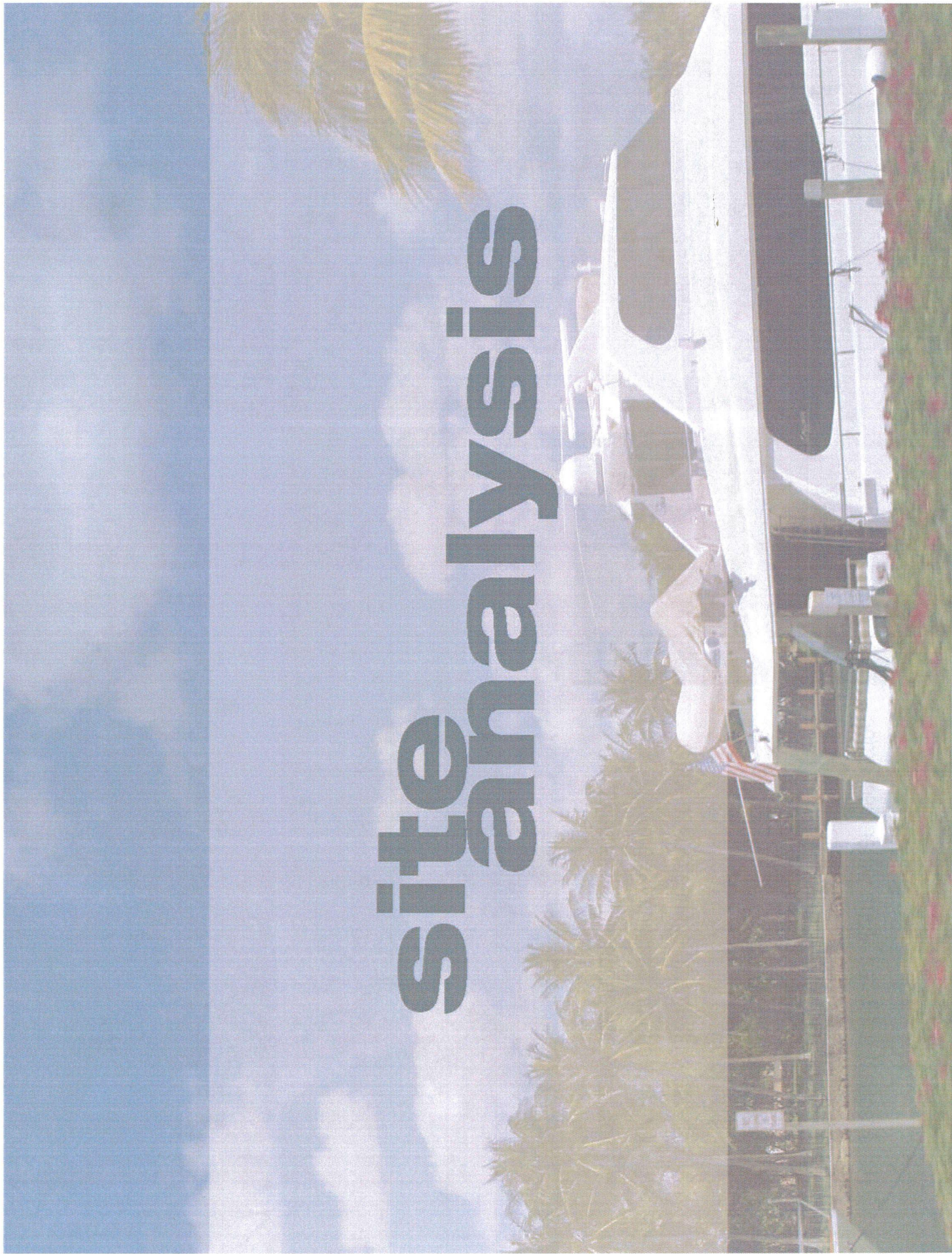


# previquestudio





# site analysis



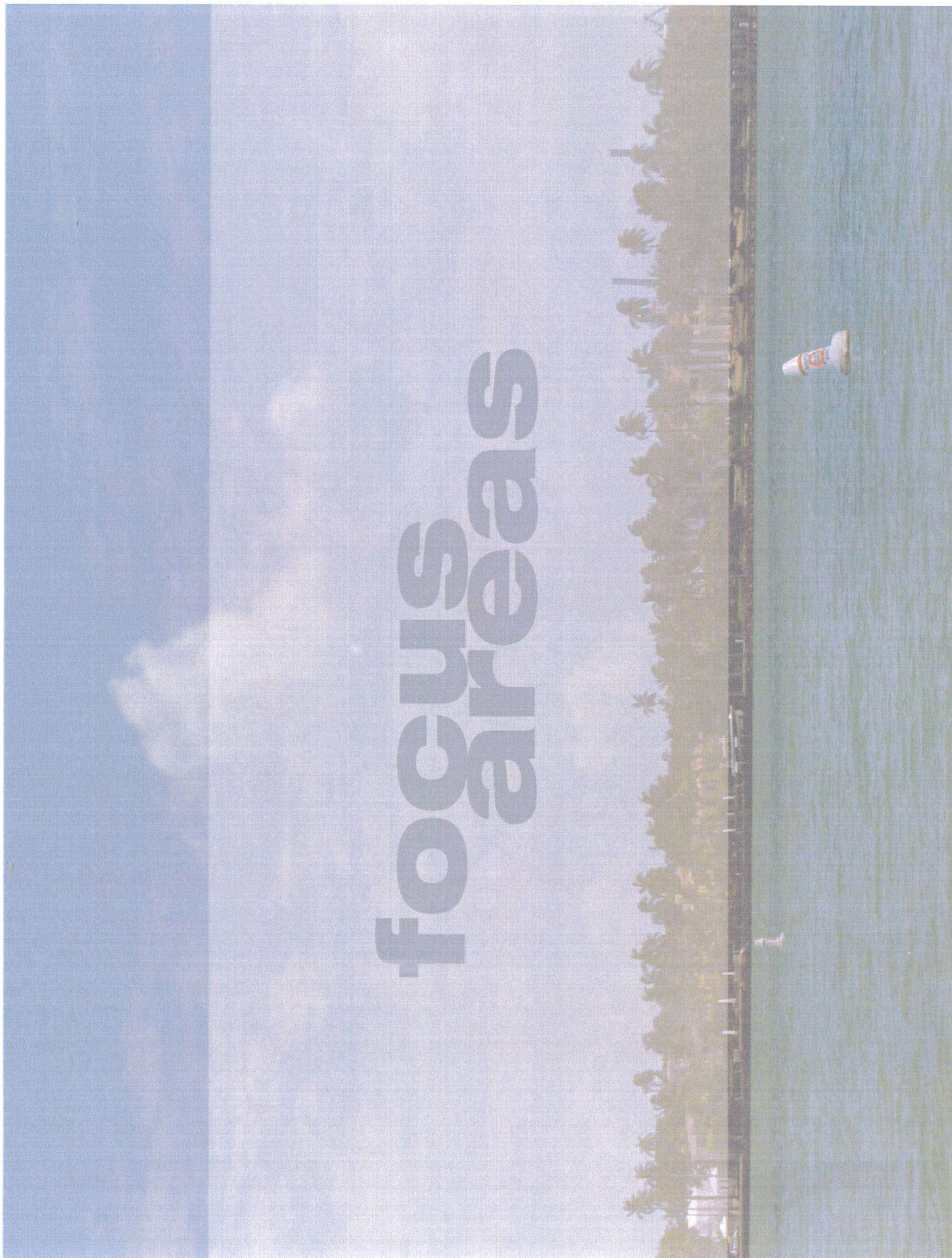


# masterplan



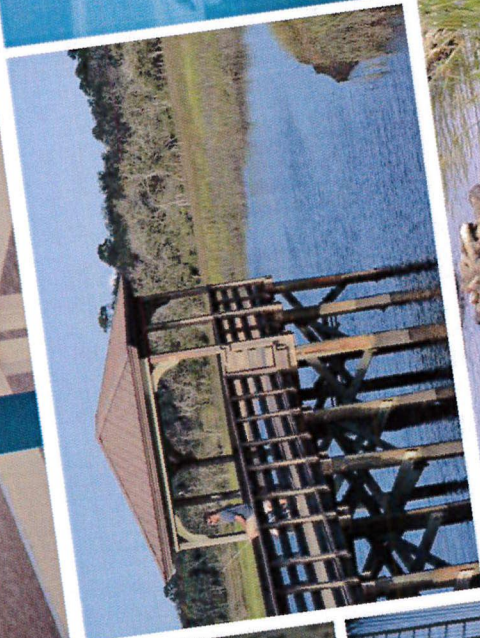
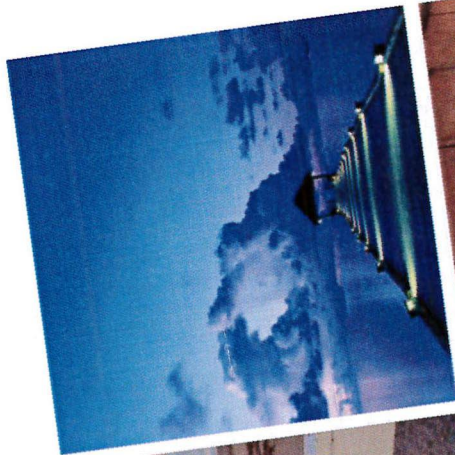


# fogareas



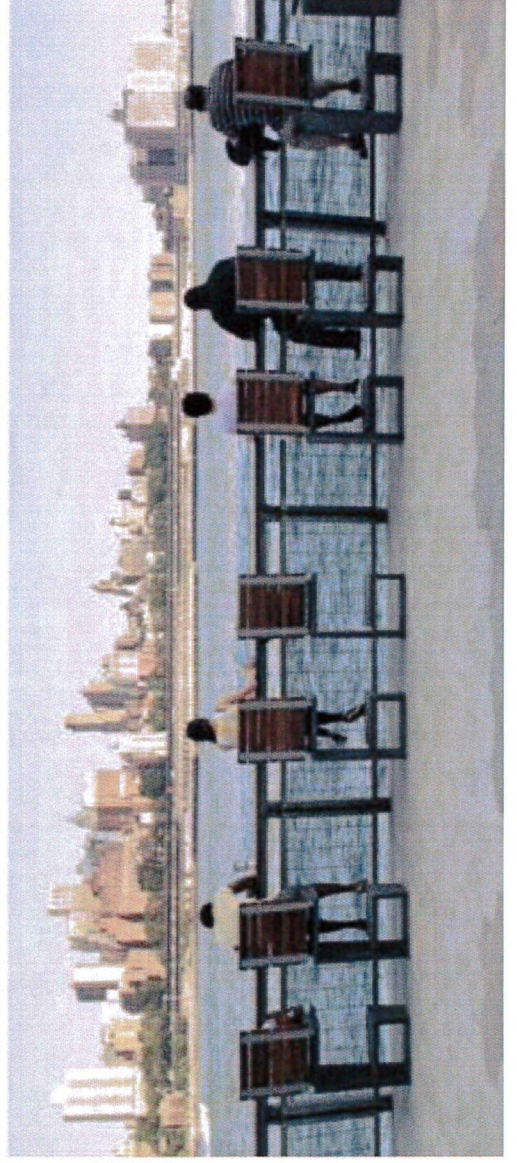
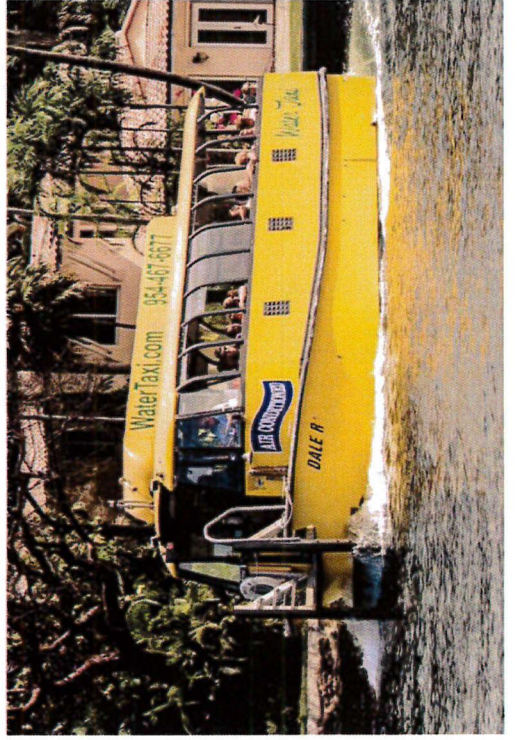
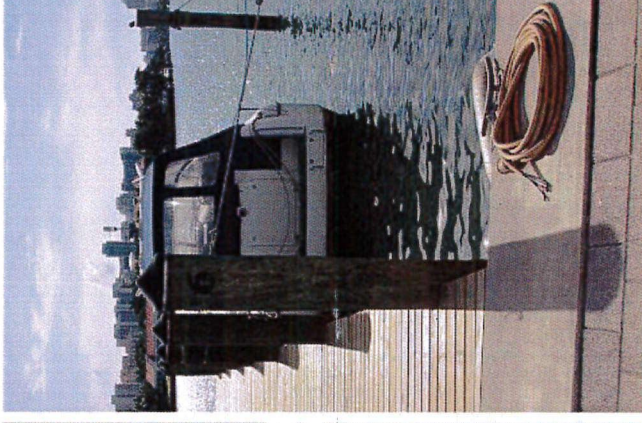


# SOUTH POINTE PARK



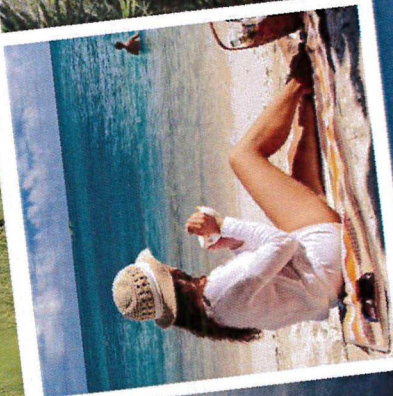
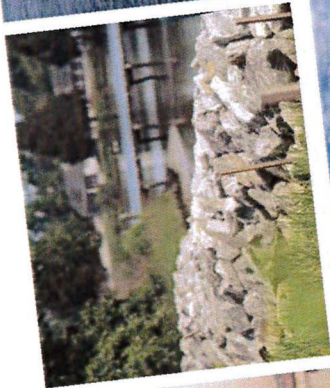


# SOBE STREET END POCKET PARK



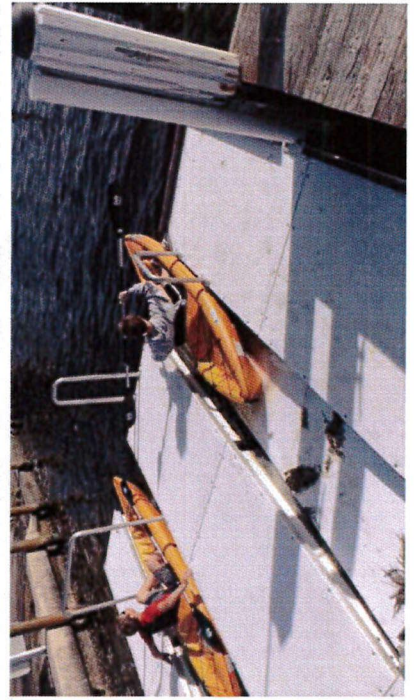
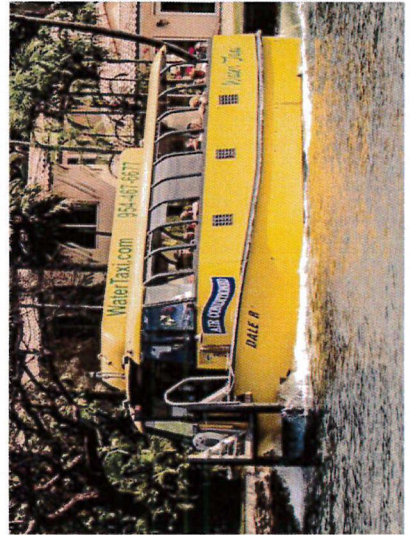
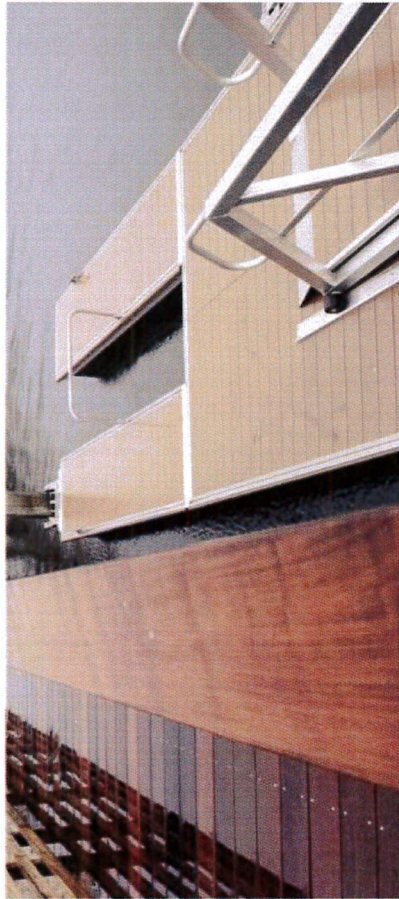
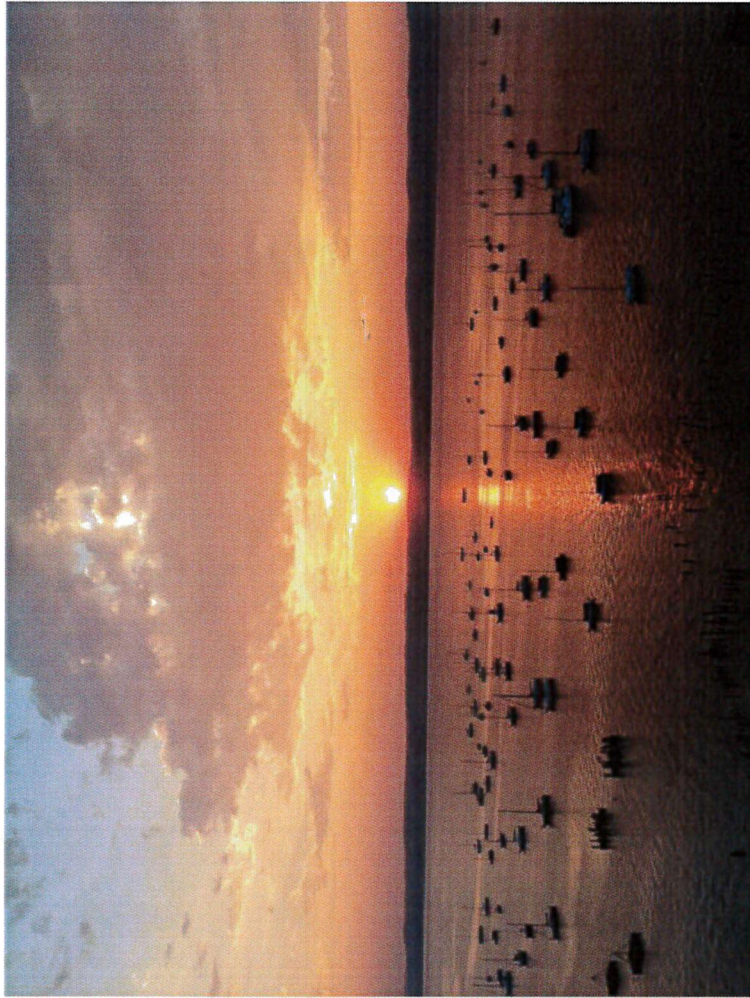


# MONUMENT ISLAND





MAURICE GIBB PARK



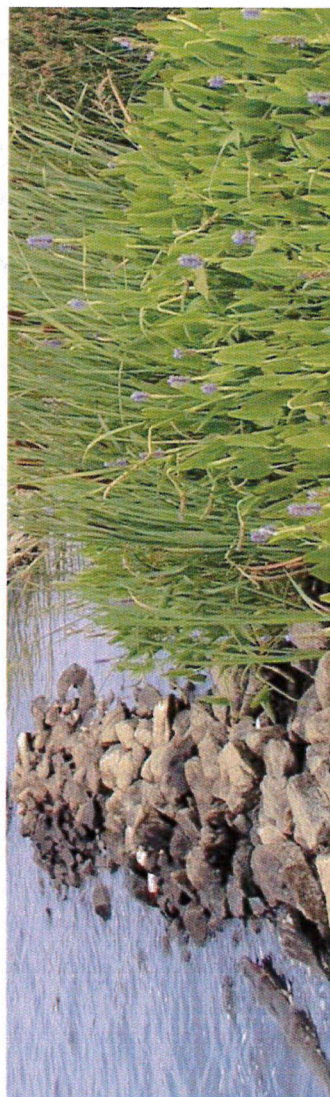
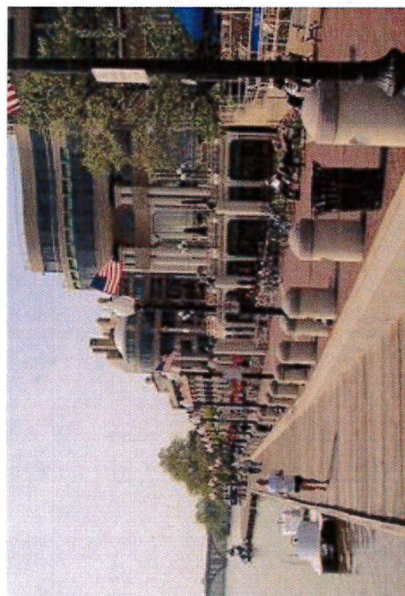
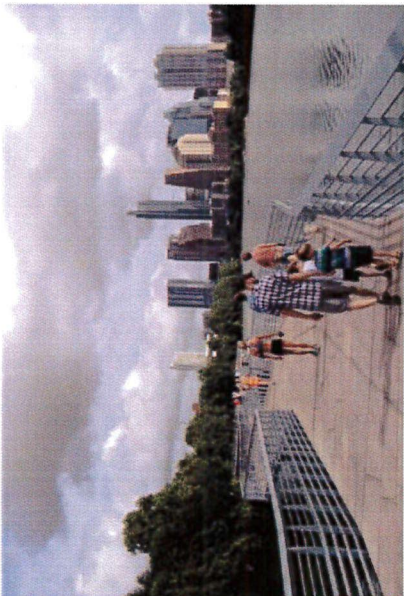


COLLINS CANAL





# LAKE PANCOAST





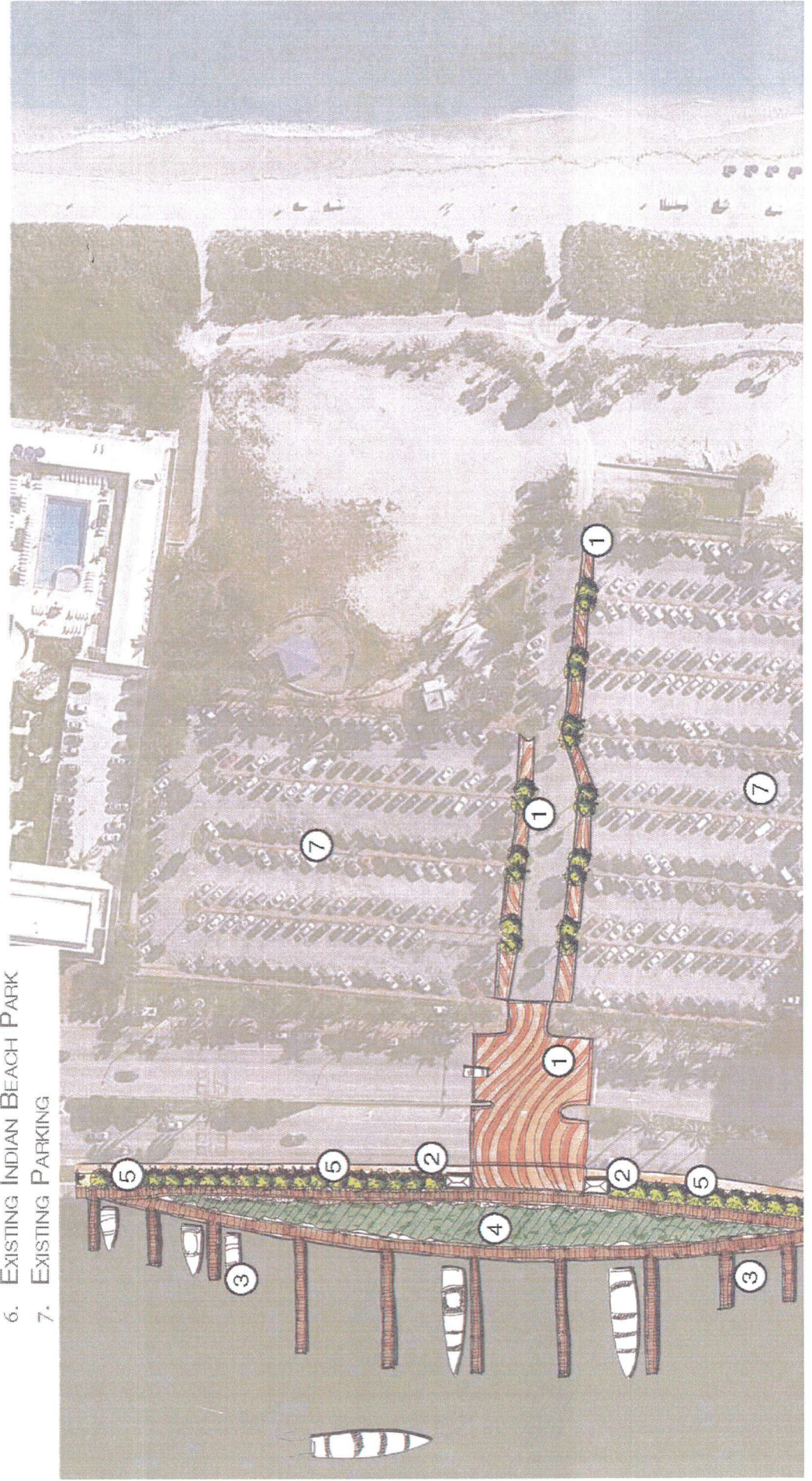
# KEY MAP



## POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS:

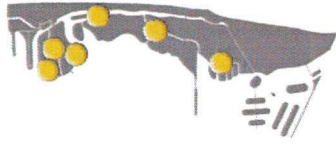
1. IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION TO BEACH
2. VENDOR PAVILION
3. EXPANDED DAY USE DOCK (PERFORMANCE BASED)
4. MAINTAINED LIVING SHORELINE
5. SITE FURNITURE: SEATING, TRASH/RECYCLING
6. RECEPTACLES, BIKE STORAGE
7. EXISTING INDIAN BEACH PARK
7. EXISTING PARKING

## INDIAN BEACH PARK





## KEY MAP



## POTENTIAL IMPROVEMENTS:

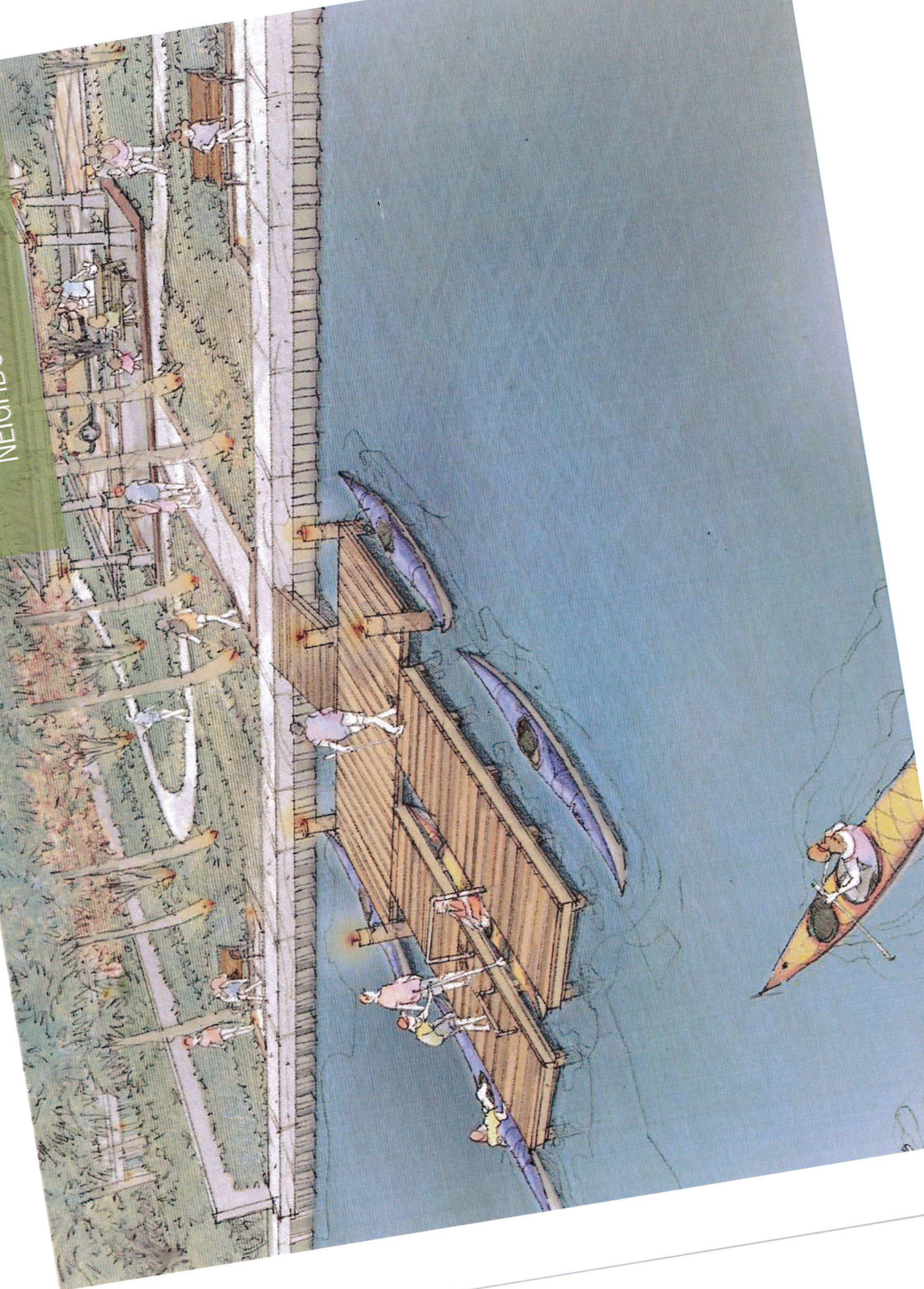
1. DROP-OFF AREA
2. VIEWING/SEATING AREA
3. NEIGHBORHOOD DAY USE DOCK
4. NEIGHBORHOOD KAYAK AND STAND-UP PADDLE BOARD LAUNCH
5. SITE FURNITURE: SEATING, TRASH/RECYCLING RECEPTACLES, BIKE STORAGE, AND LIGHTING

# NEIGHBORHOOD POCKET PARK





# NEIGHBORHOOD POCKET PARK





## IMPLEMENTATION-LOW HANGING FRUIT

- Coordinate all programs and initiatives
- Landscape Improvements
- Kayak/SUP Launches
- City Maintenance
- Site Furniture
- Marketing Campaign





## IMPLEMENTATION-LONG TERM IMPROVEMENTS

- Shelters and Gazebos
- Water Taxi
- Pedestrian Bridge
- Sunken Classroom
- Mangrove Habitat
- Lookout Pier
- City Marina





